



PEP

Pep + I.

You wonder how we had time for all this. Just part of growing up. It was probably late in Forty One or early Forty Two. My Mother had just come out of the Sanitarium ('Hospital') & had gotten a first floor apartment. ('Row House'). She had Ray with her because he was in The Children's Ward with her. He was about six years old. My Mother called the Foster Home where I was living & said she could take me. Well that same day I put all my personal stuff & dirty clothes in a small Pillow Case & started walking. I was almost Seventeen. I walked six blocks to North Ave. Then I headed east. I walked another Forty Blocks. & then about six more blocks to Homestead St. She lived at 1508. I was still ~~carrying~~ carrying my little luggage. We talked for hours, as we were apart for years. I'm not sure if I still worked at Hutzlers or I was working at the Shipyards. Anyway I would have my Money changed to One Dollar Bills & I would lay them ~~and~~ end for end & she would pick them up & follow them into the next room & clap her hands & hug me. Hutzlers was Twenty One Dollars & the shipyards was ~~40~~ 48 Dollars. Was I still a kid or what? I didn't want it but my Mother convinced me I should have a Dollar in my pocket for spending Money. A Dollar was a big deal.

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About ^{four} three or Weeks latter my Mother called
 A social worker & they got in contact with
 a Foster Home in Cecil County 'Rising Sun'
 Pep was still fifteen & he was working
 every^{day} on a Farm. Any way the Man that
 ran the place brought Pep to North^{west} Harford
 Rd by the old Sears & Roebuck Co. I was
 waiting for him & we hugged & talked. It
 was about three years since we saw each
 other. We walked to Homestead St & Pep
 hugged Mom & Ray. We still didn't have
 Helen or Eddy yet. Junior had gotten out
 of Boy's Home & joined the Navy. ~~Pep & I~~
 took up right where we left off on
 Kennaman Ave where we were all
~~separated~~ as kids. The first thing we did
 was make a new wagon & ride ~~th~~
 down the hills on Kirk Ave. Pep got
 a job at Hutzler making 16.00 a week
 My Mother got a small Welfare Check & me
 & Pep were working, so we were doing
 pretty good. We lived on the First floor
 four rooms & a Bath. On the second floor
 was a guy & his Wife about Thirty years old.
 I cant remember if Photography was his
 hobby or his job. He could do any thing
 that anything had to do with Printing
 & developing film & pictures. We would
 go up & watch & work with him all
 the time. We soon became more than
over

Separated →

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about \$4.00

Interested. We ^{pooled} our Money & Bought a Small Brownie Reflex Camera. I took one Sixteen Roll Film. We studied & watched all his equipment. We soon figured we could make this stuff because buying it was out of the question. Somewhere about then I don't remember too much about it, we moved to Newington Ave Near North & Linden Ave. I think about this time Helen was brought to live with us. Eddy was still at Rosewood or Springfield Institution. We lived at 727 & we had the first floor, I'm not sure about the second. I remember other people lived on the third floor. There was a Pantry between the kitchen & the middle room about the size of a small bathroom. Pep & I decided this ^{would} ~~was~~ make a perfect Dark Room for our Photography stuff. We started off by making a way to develop film out of the Camera. We had small trays where we put these chemicals In-D-72 - Short Stop & Hypo. It was a three part operation. We had to use three steps & we made negatives. Then we made a print box about $\frac{1}{2}$ the size of a bread box with a 750 Watt Bulb inside. We would go everywhere & take pictures & we couldn't wait to get home & develop the film & make prints 2 by 4" pictures - We then decided we over

Could make our own picture enlarger. We made the base & on one end we made a rod that went up & out about three feet, then we made this box that slid up & down on it. In the box we had a 1500 Watt bulb. On the bottom of it we bought an old Bellows Camera & took the back off & fastened it to the bottom of the box. We would put the negative in the Camera & turn on the big Bulb & it would shine through the lens out on to the print paper. By sliding the box up & down we could make pictures from small to 12x18 Enlargements (Neat or What). On my birthday I was inducted into Army. Eddy came home before I went to Ford Meade. I often wondered what ever happened to that stuff we made because I was gone for four years. I talked to Pop on the phone the other day & he said he carried on the Photography stuff for quite a while. Just another chapter of growing up. Now you know where Lorraine gets it from.

Jim Sr.

~~Pop. I wrote a chapter called Pass It On.~~
~~Now you know why my Daughter~~
~~Lorraine is as good as you can get when it~~
~~comes to taking pictures~~
~~at Driveway~~

~~Jim Sr.~~